

Message Text

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TO HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN PRIORITY

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SUBJECT: SECRETARIAL ORDER 2818 AMENDED, PART II, SECTION 4, AND SECRETARIAL ORDER NO. 2989, SECTION 6.

DOA NO. 165-TT

REGARDING CONTACT WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES ARE HEREBY ESTABLISHED;

1. TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT H.Q. WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF EXISTING FEDERAL PROGRAMS. WITH SPECIFIC REGARD TO THE NORTHERN MARIANAS, TT HQ WILL CONTINUE TO BE DESIGNATED AS "STATE AGENCY" FOR FED. PROGRAMS BUT WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH NMI FOR PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING ITS EVENTUAL CAPABILITY TO ASSUME FEDERAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

2. FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS SHALL BE CONTINUED THROUGH TT HEADQUARTERS GOVERNMENT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND DISTRICTS. EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO RECEIVE ADVANCED FUNDING FROM AGENCIES RATHER THAN CURRENT REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENT, PARTICULARLY WITH EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

3. THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF

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THE NORTHERN MARIANAS SHOULD ESTABLISH FEDERAL PROGRAM

COMMITTEES TO REVIEW PROGRAM PERFORMANCE OF CURRENT AND

FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND THEIR SOCIAL IMPACT AND APPLICABILITY TO THE TERRITORY. REVIEW PROCESS SHOULD INCLUDE ANALYSIS OF WHETHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS SHOULD BE CONTINUED OR NEW ONES STARTED AND WHETHER RESPECTIVE ADMINISTRATIONS CAN ASSUME FUNDING IF FEDERAL FUNDS ARE DIMINISHED OR DISCONTINUED.

4. IF THE TRUST TERRITORY OR THE NORTHERN MARIANAS GOVERNMENTS DESIRE TO BE INCLUDED IN FEDERAL LEGISLATION FOR PROGRAMS FOR WHICH IT IS NOT CURRENTLY ELIGIBLE, THE SPECIFICS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE MADE KNOWN TO DOTA.

5. THE TRUST TERRITORY WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE REQUESTED "STATE PLANS" AND INTERIM PROGRAMS AND FISCAL REPORTS DIRECTLY TO AGENCIES AS REQUESTED, WITH COPIES TO DOTA.

6. PRIOR TO EITHER THE TT OR THE NORTHERN MARIANAS GOVERNMENT ENTERING INTO ANY NEW PROGRAMS, NEW INITIATIVES OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM ANY FEDERAL AGENCIES, SUCH ACTIVITY MUST BE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY DOTA. CONVERSELY, IF FEDERAL AGENCIES COMMUNICATE WITH TT TO INDICATE ELIGIBILITY FOR ANY NEW PROGRAMS, TT SHOULD REQUEST AGENCIES TO CONTACT DOTA FOR POLICY GUIDANCE AND REVIEW.

7. FROM THIS DATE FORWARD, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, ANY PLANNED VISITS TO BE MADE BY FEDERAL AGENCY PERSONNEL TO THE TRUST TERRITORY FOR ANY PURPOSE SHOULD BE COORDINATED THROUGH THE OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS, I.E., WHEN AGENCY PROGRAM PEOPLE CONTACT THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY TO COMMUNICATE THEIR INTENT OR DESIRE TO VISIT THE TRUST TERRITORY, TT OFFICIALS SHOULD ADVISE THEM THAT THEIR PLANS MUST BE COORDINATED THROUGH THE OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS.

PLEASE ADVISE ALL ADMINISTRATORS AND DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OF THESE
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NEW PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED. DOTA SENDS.
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